



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 108th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2003

No. 3

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2003, at 2 p.m.

Senate

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2003

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate's guest Chaplain this morning is RADM Barry C. Black, the Chief of Chaplains for the United States Navy.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Eternal Lord God, good beyond all that is good, fair beyond all that is fair, in whom is calmness, peace, and concord, destroy the dissensions that divide us and bring us back to the unity You desire for humanity.

Lord, we seek for peace and unity, and yet we live in tension. We make agreements but suspect that we have not agreed. We flex the muscle of our might to reassure ourselves and to caution aggressors, and still anxieties persist.

Lord, show us the way. Keep us from presuming that because of some goodness we possess, You are on our side. Empower us, instead, to seek to be on Your side.

Bless this great land. Bless also all whom You have set in authority. Give them such wisdom and candor, courage and justice, joy and truth, that Your will will be done on Earth even as it is done in Heaven.

All glory, honor, and praise be to You. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning there will be a period of morning business for 2 hours, until 11:30 a.m., for Senators to speak and introduce bills.

Today, we expect to receive from the House a continuing resolution. It is my hope that we will be able to take up that measure and pass it in short order. We also hope to have the committee resolutions completed so that we can get the committees up and running so they can all begin their work for the 108th Congress.

Yesterday, the Republican conference approved our membership and, therefore, we would like to have the respective party committee resolutions passed today if at all possible.

Over the course of the morning we will be talking leadership to leadership to establish a timetable, but hopefully that can be done today in terms of the committee composition and chairmanships.

Senators should know that rollcall votes are possible today. We will let Senators know the timing of votes as soon as they are scheduled. Also, Senators should be aware that if we are

unable to complete our work today, there could be rollcall votes on Friday.

I yield the floor.

(Mr. ALEXANDER assumed the chair.)

Mr. STEVENS. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. FRIST. Yes.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, if that resolution is agreed to today, I would like to have a meeting of the Appropriations Committee tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Mr. FRIST. I understand. It is absolutely critical that we finish much of the business from last year. There are 11 appropriations bills that are very dependent on us having the committee resolutions passed. Hopefully that can be done as soon as possible. We made real progress yesterday. I am very hopeful, over the course of today, we can come to some conclusion with that, and then we would be able to have the appropriations meetings and be able to address the spending bills—11 of those spending bills that are critically important to this country—over the course of Friday and next week.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, before the majority leader leaves, as the leader knows, we had a very productive meeting with the President yesterday. We left there with the feeling of bipartisanship that we should have with us today. We would hope, with the chairman of the very important Appropriations Committee, the President pro tempore of the Senate, being on the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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